



## Advanced Camp gives British cadets a royal welcome

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## Howitzer power gets center stage at Fire Support

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# WARRIOR



# LEADER

Vol. 4, No. 4

2000 ROTC Advanced Camp, Fort Lewis, Wash.

Aug. 1, 2000

# Camp cadre grade gunfighters

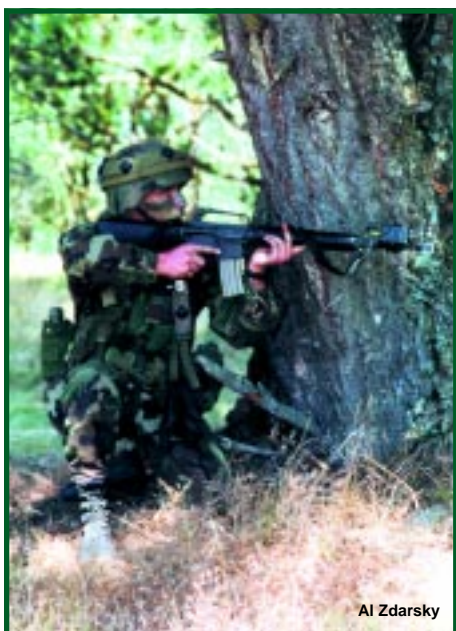
## Platoon STX tests cadets' combat leadership skills

By 2nd Lt. Andrew Exum



Al Zdarsky

A squad of 5th Regiment cadets consolidates its position before moving on to the mission objective at Platoon STX. The entire platoon was airlifted to the simulated battlefield by CH-47D Chinook helicopters from the Washington Army National Guard. Once on the ground, the cadets' evaluations begin.



Al Zdarsky

Festooned with MILES sensors and armed with a blank-firing M-16A2, this 5th Regiment cadet takes aim.

The mission of the Platoon Situational Tactical Exercise (STX) is to train the 2000 Advanced Camp cadets in a realistic and challenging platoon tactical environment to develop and evaluate leadership potential. That's the official word, but when cadets take to the field for Platoon STX, the dry dialogue of the mission statement is lost in a maze of forest ambushes, action-packed gun battles and heart-stopping aerial assaults. Platoon STX is among the most challenging and exciting activities the cadets participate in while at camp.

"The most important thing we do is give the cadets the opportunity to do what they will really do as lieutenants," explained Lt. Col. Marshall Fite, chief of the Platoon STX site.

"No matter what branch they go into, this is what they'll be doing in the future," he noted. "They must be able to act and lead tactically."

Platoon STX is divided into three distinct phases: Team Wolf, Team Panther and Team Eagle. Team Wolf teaches basic infantry techniques, while Teams Panther and Eagle present tactical missions and evaluate cadets on their leadership skills.

Master Sgt. Michael Atkins, from Alcorn State University, explained the objectives of Team Wolf.

"What we do is build upon what cadets learned in Squad STX," he said. Much of the instruction cadets receive is built around the same infantry tactics they learn for squad operations.

Maj. Robert Wade explained

how the objectivity of evaluations has been improved this year with a new system allowing evaluators to use a common baseline for standards.

"What we put in place this year was having the evaluators from Teams Wolf and Panther walking with the prior teams," Wade said. In other words, evaluators from Team Eagle tag along with evaluators from Team Panther to ensure they grade and evaluate cadets in the same manner.

Wade also complimented the work rate of the cadets. "Every regiment we've seen out here has been really motivated."

So far, cadets seem to be enjoying the Platoon STX experience. Cadet Michael Doyle, a 6th Regiment cadet from Gonzaga Univer-

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# Camp Commander's column

Congratulations to all our 2000 National Advanced Camp graduates! During each Regiment’s activation ceremony, I challenged every cadet to grow, to develop his/her leadership skills, and to learn about the Army and about himself/herself. You have accomplished all of that, established some great new friendships, and taken a giant step forward toward commissioning. As I and hundreds of other camp cadre watched you progress through your 35 days of demanding training, we have been impressed with your spirit, commitment and toughness.

I personally spent as much time as possible watching cadets negotiate the Sgt. Audie Murphy Assault Course – that was clearly a “gut check” and defining moment for most of you. I never failed to

be impressed in that choking dust by your teamwork, determination, and desire to excel. You now have a first hand understanding of both leadership and followership.

I want to offer special congratulations to our camp commissionees. It is a remarkable moment on Watkins Field and in the Advanced Camp chapel when you raise your right hand and publicly accept the mantle and obligations of being an officer in the United States Army. Your hard work and commitment to an ideal often not shared by others make you really unique.


A special thanks to the camp cadre - ROTC dedicated officers and NCOs, new lieutenants, talented USAR and ARNG soldiers and leaders, magnificent I Corps soldiers and Fort Lewis installa-

tion staff and our ROTC civilian employees. You have made the 2000 Advanced Camp a great training ground for our future Army leaders. Your professional dedication and personal sacrifices these last 10 weeks have truly made a difference.

Some final thoughts for you cadets as you depart Fort Lewis. When you begin the fall term on your campuses, ensure you translate your Advanced Camp experience into productive, meaningful training for the MS-III's coming to the 2001 Advanced Camp. Continue to polish your own skills as MS-IVs and focus on completing your academic degrees. Make thoughtful branch choices as you complete your Accessions Packets. I applaud your many accomplishments here at Advanced



Col. Daniel S. Challis

Camp. You indeed have proven that the next cohort of lieutenants are the thinking, competent, ethical leaders our Army needs and our soldiers deserve. We are tremendously proud of who you are and what you do. **Ruck up and move out!** 

# Command Sgt. Maj.'s commentary

Congratulations to those cadets who have completed the 2000 ROTC Advanced Camp here at Fort Lewis, Wash. Since my arrival this summer, I have been impressed with the high quality of training I’ve seen among the committee cadre, the cadets they train and the camp staff who support all aspects of our mission.

I also want to thank all the Army Reserve, Army National Guard and I Corps soldiers who have provided support to camp and contributed to the great achievements of this year. A special thank you goes out to the many Dept. of the Army civilians within Cadet Command and across Fort Lewis. Without their unend-

ing support, camp would not have been the success it was.

For the camp graduates, I have a further challenge for you. Advanced Camp is a stepping stone for you to continue your development as the future of the Army. Now you must head back to your colleges and universities prepared to train the Military Science students back on campus, and to teach them all that you know. Help next year’s MS-III class coming to camp to be the best-prepared ever. Once you earn your commissions as second lieutenants, then head off to your officer basic courses, remember all you have learned here. Your Army career has just begun. Always


maintain your physical fitness, professional development and personal ethics to the highest standard. Remember, at all times you will be constantly observed by your soldiers, subordinate leaders, peers and superiors. Always set a good example.

As you enter your final year, think about your transition from cadet to second lieutenant. Most of all, give everything you have as a leader. I wish you the best of luck.

As I travel to all the schools in my region in the next year, I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can and doing my part to make ROTC programs better. I especially look forward to next



Command Sgt. Maj. Lewis Ferguson

year’s Advanced Camp, where the lessons we learned this year will be put into effect as part of the continuous improvement of all our programs. 

# Work hard for promotion!

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Dwight D. Riggs

“A sluggard does not plow in season; so at harvest time he looks but finds nothing.”  
Proverbs 20:4

Army service and farming are two very close relatives, both requiring a lot of hard work. Idle farmers and lazy officers receive the same reward – NOTHING! Solomon observed this in Proverbs 20:4. Since you know the real truth, let me explain the necessary background facts of this proverb. You will, no doubt, appreciate the relevance of this 3,000-year old biblical wisdom as it applies to your Army career.

The time of farming referred to in this proverb is not the seasonal planting of late spring; rather it is the planting season of November and December in Palestine, where

Israel is now located. The weather during this time is cold, messy and muddy because of the abundant rain. It is a chore to plow and plant in such miserable weather, but if a farmer misses the right season, he will reap nothing at harvest time.

You may wonder, then, what a sluggard actually is. The term ‘sluggard’ refers to a lazy man. In fact we derive the word from common snails or slugs – those slippery creatures slowly slithering along blades of grass. So, why does the lazy farmer refuse to work at planting time? There are two answers. The obvious answer is the cold, wet and inconvenient weather. The less-than-obvious answer is that the farmer is lazy by nature, and the weather is merely an excuse to conceal his laziness. How many people will honestly admit to being lazy? Not many people I know! Instead they reassure themselves

that they are hard-working and industrious, and that the weather is simply not conducive for them. This form of defense is called “passing the buck” or blaming circumstances to cover your own laziness. When harvest time comes for this lazy farmer, his unplowed, unplanted fields yield nothing.

The issue here is not inclement weather, but a lazy human nature. Another term for “sluggard” used throughout the book of Proverbs is “fool.” The sluggard is most definitely a fool. He rejects instruction and choose their own independent way, defending their actions by blaming other people, unjust circumstances and inclement weather.

Whether you are a company or field grade officer, non-commissioned officer, junior enlisted or a soon-to-be-commissioned cadet, you must work hard for promotion, even when the weather is rainy, cold and muddy. That means early morning physical training, long hours, field duty, staff meetings and general support for your

commander. Will you shoulder your responsibilities even when the demands are inconvenient, or will you look for logical reasons why you can not “plow and plant” for your career?

You have an even greater task, your spiritual relationship with God. Are you working hard at cultivating your knowledge of God and living according to His Word, or are you manufacturing plausible excuses why you do not attend church services, do not read the Bible and neglect to worship Him? Remember that excuses only conceal the lazy fool. When harvest time comes on judgment day, will your life be filled with fruit, or barren and bleak? Do not expect to go to heaven if you have not “plowed and planted” your spiritual life, even in inclement weather! Work hard for your earthly Army promotions and equally hard for your heavenly, spiritual promotion by submitting yourself fully to God and His Son.

## WARRIOR LEADER

Vol. 4, No. 4 - 2000 ROTC Advanced Camp,  
Fort Lewis, Wash. August 1, 2000

ADVANCED CAMP COMMANDER  
Col. Daniel S. Challis

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PAO - Capt. Stone), Box 339512, Fort Lewis, Wash. 98433-9512, or phone (DSN) 357-7473, (Commercial) (253) 967-7473.

**Public Affairs Officer - Lt. Col. Margie Griffith**  
**Deputy PAO - Capt. Woody Stone**  
**Command Info. Off./Editor - Bob Rosenburgh**  
**Staff Writers - 2nd Lt. Greg Darling, 2nd Lt. Andrew Exum, 2nd Lt. Erica Iverson**



# Destruction on demand



**Story, art and photos by  
Bob Rosenburgh**

At some time in an officer's career, regardless of branch or assignment, he or she might be called upon to place suppressive fire on an enemy force. And, whether the available strike comes from the air, nearby artillery batteries or even naval gunfire waiting offshore, that officer must know the fundamentals of fire support. It is crucial to the very survival of both the soldiers and officers, so that is why cadets at 2000 ROTC Advanced Camp must all spend a day with the Fire Support Committee.

"This committee usually ends

play later in camp. "Land navigation is a big part of the artillery aspect of map reading, and offensive and defensive fire planning classes will become important at Squad and Platoon STX." Edwards said parts of FSC are among the first tactical operations order drills the cadets are exposed to during their camp cycle. "Up to this point, everything else has been focused on individual skills and very little on the tactical side."

Training at the FSC was accomplished this year by 2nd Battalion, 8th Field Artillery Regiment, stationed here at Fort Lewis. 1st Lt. Robert Smith is the officer in charge at Observation Post 2, where the FSC is located.



**"We have enemy approaching to our rear," came the simulated radio report, and the two guns from C Battery, 2nd Battalion, 8th Field Artillery swung around to deliver a quick salvo to the would-be assailants. The surprised 10th Regiment cadets watching from the bleachers didn't know the shots were blanks.**

up being the cadets' favorite site," said Fire Support Committee chief Lt. Col. Michael T. Edwards from the University of Notre Dame. "They enjoy being around artillery and actually being able to call for fire themselves and get their hands on some of the equipment."

Edwards said the instruction is important to combat arms officers, but added that virtually every squad or platoon leader must know how to call for fire.

"They all get some use out of this regardless of what branch they associate with," he said, adding that certain aspects of many other committees are incorporated into FSC or will come into

"We have approximately 220 of our people here to run this station," said Smith. "We have three major classes going on up here at the top." One is the gunnery team training, which shows the cadets how to use a howitzer and explains the gun's primary components.

"This is the M-119A1," said Sgt. Sean Ruppert at the howitzer familiarization station. "The capabilities are a max range of 14,000 meters and 19,000 meters with a rocket-assisted projectile. The rate of fire is six rounds-per-minute with a two-minute maximum and three rounds-per-minute for 30 minutes." He also explained the

types of 105 mm ammunition the gun could fire, its weight and dimensions and all the primary components, after which he and his team answered questions and allowed cadets some hands-on training.

"On the other side of that," said Smith, "we have classes set up with two terrain models - one for offensive and one for defensive fire planning."

Smith said eight bunkers on the hillside facing the artillery impact area enable cadets to place live artillery fire, from a gun battery two kilometers north of OP-2, on targets to their front, after attending a 25-minute class on calling



**Sgt. Sean Ruppert, from A Battery, 2nd Battalion, 8th Field Artillery, explains the virtues of the M-119A1.**



**An M-119A1 105 mm howitzer fires from atop Observation Post 2.**

fires.

"Everybody gets a chance to adjust fire," said Smith. "That's our goal, weather permitting." Every squad also selects a "super-shooter" who will compete against other platoons for a fire-adjustment score in the Leader Stakes competition. "The top Forward Observer team in the regiment gets an 8th Artillery coin and they

get to live-fire a gun from right here on the top of the OP."

Fire Support begins their day with a firepower demonstration hosted by the 2nd Battalion, 8th Field Artillery, who do a "hipshoot" exercise with two airlifted guns, and then two more howitzers towed in by Humvee. The live-fire demo is always an exciting part of every cadet's camp experience, but the FSC also provides the active-component artillerists with plenty of training on their guns.

"It gives the guns lots of extra time to go through missions and shoot," said Smith. "Our FO teams also do plenty when they register the guns in the morning and check the cadet's fire-missions for safety and accuracy." He said one cadet (in another regiment) accidentally called his own grid coordinate, not the target, for the fire mission. "The gun crews called back, and the chief wasn't going to let anyone shoot it, and asked if the cadet wanted to verify the grid." A number of safety checks, from close supervision to warnings from computers, are in place to make sure every shot is safe to fire.



**Two CH-47D Chinooks from the Washington Army National Guard approach with sling-loaded howitzers during the Hipshoot demonstration.**







Al Zdarsky

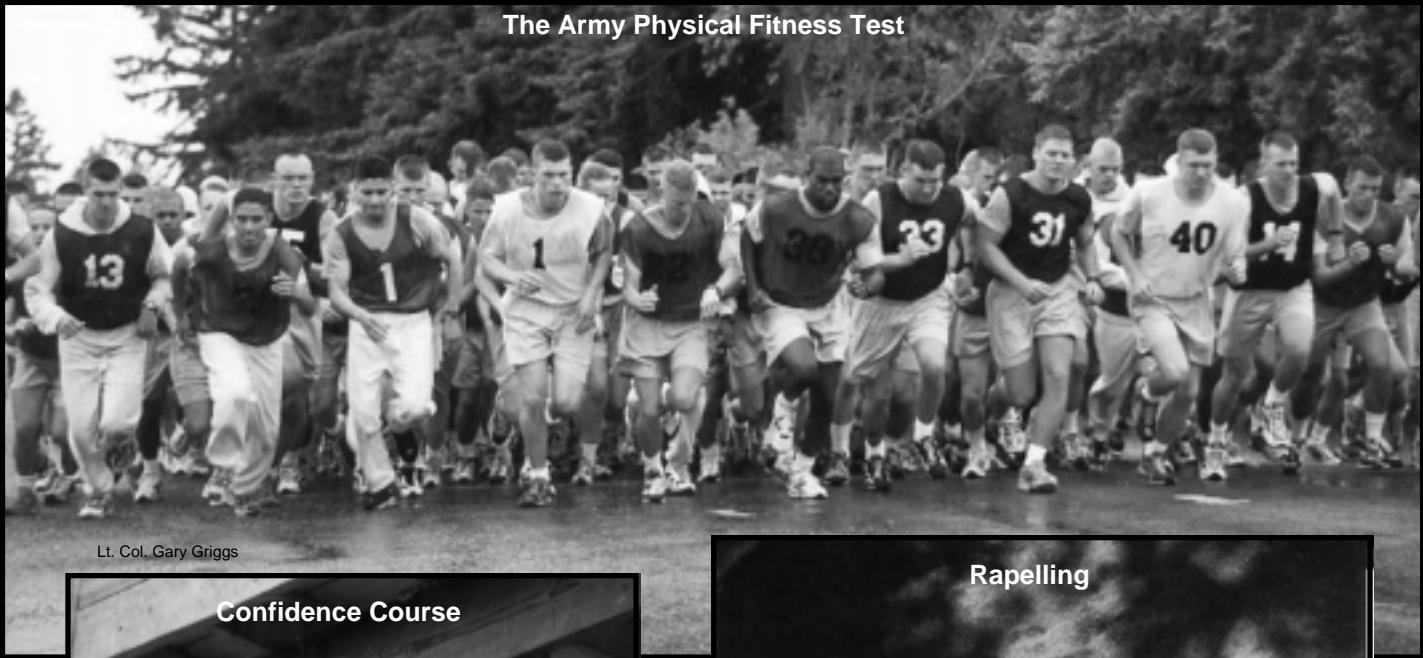


Al Zdarsky

The Motivational Bone



Staff Sgt. Dale Worrell



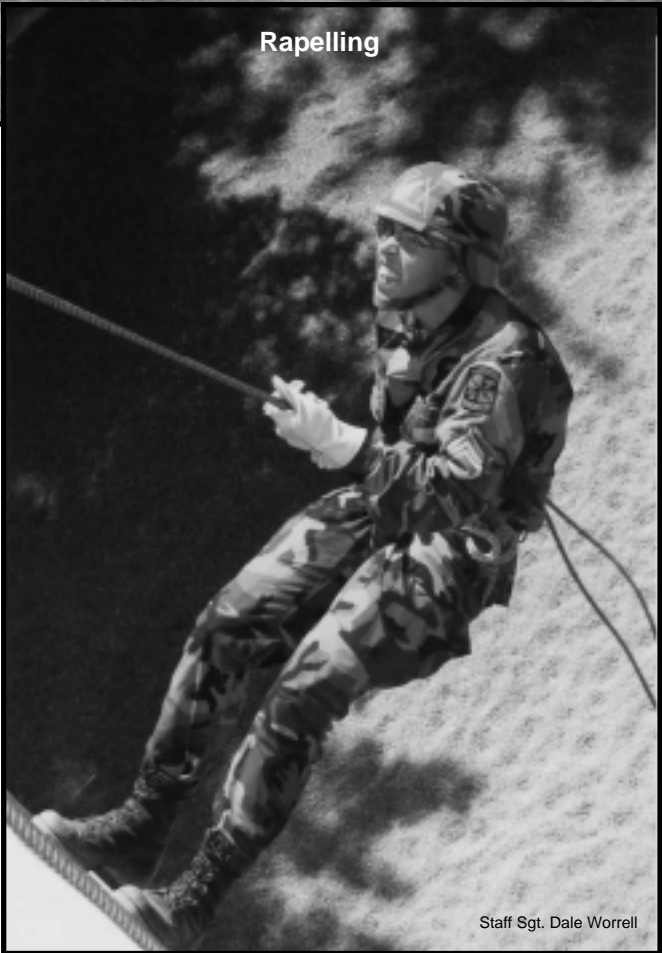
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Land Navigation

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Field Leadership Reaction Course

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Branch Orientation

Bob Rosenburgh



Machine Gun

Maj. Keith Beverley



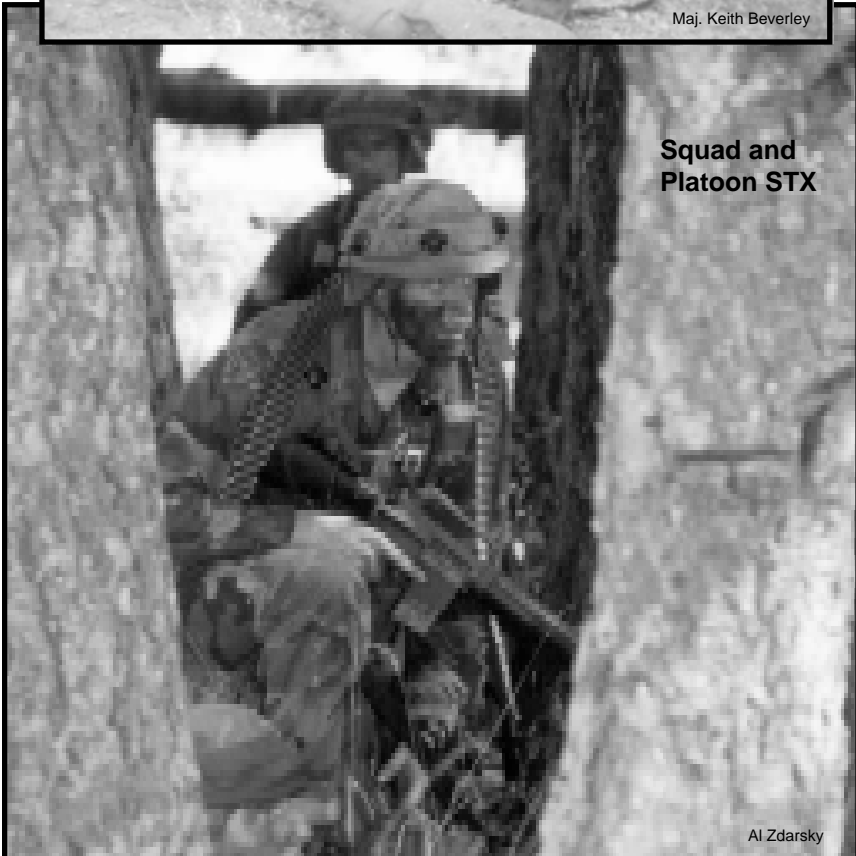
Fire Support Committee

Bob Rosenburgh



V.I.P. Visits

Maj. Paul Yager



Squad and Platoon STX

Al Zdarsky



Basic Rifle Marksmanship

Bob Rosenburgh



Graduation

Al Zdarsky



# Teamwork is key at ITT

Story and photos by 2nd Lt. Andrew Exum

It's the end of a long day, and the cadets making their way through the Audie Murphy Assault Course are tired, sore, and – most of all – dirty.

Covered in dust, coughing and spitting, they are nonetheless working as a team and nearing their objective. That very same teamwork is the purpose of the Individual Tactical Training (ITT) site at 2000 ROTC Advanced Camp.

“Our mission is to provide physically demanding, mentally challenging, realistic and safe individual tactical training in accordance with the Army standards,” said Lt. Col. Richard McKinney, head of the ITT site.

“This is really the cadets’ halfway point – the end of their individual training and the beginning of their group training,” McKinney explained.

The individual tests like land navigation and the Army Physical Fitness Test are well in the past by the time cadets reach ITT. Here, the cadre tries to take cadets’ individual skills and put them to work in a team environment to better function as part of a group in Squad and Platoon STX.



**Cadet Melody Lee, of Indiana University, crosses the two-rope bridge.**

McKinney and his crew have worked since June 9 to make ITT one of the best-run and most enjoyable training events at Advanced Camp. All the hard work, they say, has paid off.

“We’re the best committee out here,” McKinney laughs. “Ask any of the rest of ‘em!”

This year’s ITT site is divided into six different sections, each designed to lead cadets through a “crawl, walk, run” learning process.

The first three stations at ITT teach basic skills such as enemy prisoner of war searches, camouflage techniques, battle-field reports, and other skills cadets may or may not use while at ITT, but will certainly use during upcoming Squad and Platoon STX.

At the fourth station, cadets employ individual movement techniques like low crawling, high crawling and moving tactically over walls and obstacles. The fifth station is a miniature version of the famed Audie Murphy Assault Course cadets will negotiate at the end of the training.

When asked to characterize the ITT training, the cadets sounded off with a resounding chorus: “DIRT!”

“We saw a couple regiments ahead of us and how dirty they were, but man! I can’t believe I inhaled this much dirt!” exclaimed Tamp Lawrence, an 8th Regiment cadet from Florida State University.

Lawrence was also keen enough to notice the way ITT tries to shift the cadets from individual training to teamwork.

“I’ve been noticing the closer we get to STX the more [the training] points toward teamwork and Squad STX – giving [operation orders], seeing sand tables, etc.”

Master Sgt. Christopher Duncan, the chief noncommissioned officer at ITT, proclaimed the site’s training a success.

“It’s been good for the cadets – they’ve had fun, and I’ve had fun,” Duncan admitted. “It’s



**From left to right, 8th Regiment cadets Will Hunter, Melody Lee and Tamp Lawrence post security while their teammate on the Audie Murphy Assault Course negotiates an obstacle.**




**Cadet Ross Feuerstein, of James Madison University, negotiates concertina wire on the Audie Murphy Assault Course.**

definitely been a rewarding experience.”

Duncan was also pleased to report that, despite the rough nature of the training at ITT, injuries had thus far been kept to a minimum.

“Our big concern is doing [ITT] to standard, but also with safety in mind,” he said.

“From day to day you’ll have a few minor injuries – mainly twisted ankles or twisted knees. Nothing major.”

That seems incredible considering the nature of ITT, but speaks well of the 120 people that comprise the ITT committee. The cadets who have gone through this year’s ITT are well-trained and ready for the challenges awaiting them at Squad and Platoon STX. 

***“Gunfighters,” continued from Page 1*** sity, said the instruction at Team Wolf had been good thus far.

“It’s also good for platoon cohesion,” he noted. “This is the only thing we’ve done as a platoon besides barracks maintenance.”

Cadet Herb Leggette, from Presbyterian University, said he was blown away by the training during his time with Team Eagle.

“I’m learning a lot,” the 5th Regiment cadet said. “Give me two cups full. I’m gonna take some of this home with me!”

Lt. Col. Bob Smith, the deputy commander of

the Platoon STX site, wasn’t surprised by the enthusiastic response from the cadets.

“They’ve been very aggressive in their pursuit of the training we provide out here,” Smith said. “Motivation has been high.”

The training at Platoon STX is intense. “We started out to do the ‘crawl, walk, run’ training method,” said Maj. James Morningstar, “but now it’s more like ‘run, run faster, run real fast.’”

Cadets can count on long hours and tough missions. The fact that Platoon STX represents the last hurdle for Advanced Camp cadets is not lost on either the cadets or the cadre. The staff at

Platoon STX works hard to ensure its contribution will be a worthy culmination of cadets’ time at Fort Lewis.

The staff of 127 ROTC members, in addition to more than 200 reserve and I Corps soldiers, put time and effort into making Platoon STX both fun and challenging.

As for the cadets, they know that the air assault mission at the end of Platoon STX is the last real challenge of Advanced Camp 2000.

“I guarantee you,” Fite laughs, “there are some happy cadets at the end of that air assault mission.” 



# Medics make matters better

By 2nd Lt. Greg Darling

From foot problems to prescriptions to major bodily injuries, the medical support at 2000 ROTC Advanced Camp has been on the scene from the beginning. The commendable work and dedicated support of these individuals should earn them well-deserved recognition for a job well done.

Whether it be the ever present "Red Cross" Humvee at the field sites or the always helpful "sick call" tent in the regimental areas, the aid provided by these professionals eases the day-to-day operation of Advanced Camp.

Because much of the training at Advanced Camp involves marginal risks of some sort, injuries can be a regular occurrence. Cadets experience dehydration and heat exhaustion when they neglect fluid replenishment. Foot problems are also commonplace as cadets come to camp with tender feet and, often, poorly broken-in boots.

All this is taken in stride by Advanced Camp medical support. Capt. Kevin Feber, officer in charge of medical support for Advanced Camp, was very optimistic about the facility's operation. Working out of the sick call building, Feber explained the span of responsibilities within the many elements encompassing this aspect of camp. "The units in the field are supported by this office," said Feber, "meaning that we are in charge of all medical support for camp. All the ambulances are supported by the 514th Ambulance Company." The aid tents seen in the regimental areas and at Squad/Platoon STX and the land navigation site are "provided by either the 520th or the 547th Area Support Medical Companies, at Fort Lewis," Feber explained. He continued, "[Our] tent provides an area where we can medically categorize, and treat cadets as they come in. So [if they need to] come into [the clinic], which is very small, those are only people who need to see a medical provider. I only have three exam rooms, whereas, in the tent, they have four screening rooms, which provides us with much more room."

Capt. Feber emphasized the importance that all medical issues come through him first for evaluation. "Unless it's a risk of life, limb or eyesight, everything comes through this office. The reason is that if they're taken straight to [the] Madigan [Army Medical Center] emergency room they may sit for six hours. If they come and see me, I can see them immediately, send them straight to X-ray, [if needed], and they're taken care of faster. Now, if there's a chance someone could die or lose a limb or lose their eyesight, then, of course we send them straight to the emergency room."

For the most part though, Feber has seen minor medical injuries at Advanced Camp. He spoke positively of the injuries cadets have brought through his office. "The three biggest [injuries] we've seen all summer have been colds and allergies, blisters and ankle/knee injuries."

Sgt. Edward Villacruze, from the 514th Ambulance Company at Ft Lewis, has spent his summer at the individual tactical training (ITT) site. Villacruze, along with four others, keeps cadets fixed up at the field site so they can continue training. He enthusiastically shared some of his experiences thus far.

The most common injuries at the ITT site



**Cadre members at the confidence course assist medical staff members lowering a cadet who's shoulder became dislocated during some "high level" training.**

are "usually just sprains, strains and chipped teeth," said Villacruze. Cadets often misjudge their own body weight when planting their M-16 for a "combat roll," resulting in a literal "mouthful of metal."

"We [also see a lot of] dehydration and heat exhaustion out here," he continued.

Occasionally cadets become injured to the point of evacuation. "This year," said Villacruze, "I think I've evacuated about four cadets. It's mostly just a precaution. Usually, in a regular unit, when we treat soldiers, we just monitor them for improvements and go on from there, putting them on 'light duty.' But since cadets are in a training environment, once we treat them, we evacuate them for further evaluation [so they don't have to miss any more training]."

Advanced Camp cadets can feel secure knowing the medical staff is an ever-present help when needed. The professionalism exhibited each day solidifies that security, keeping cadets reassured that someone is always there to help them and keep them fit for training.



## UK cadets come to camp



2nd Lt. Andrew Exum

**British cadet Mark Sims adjusts his MILES gear with help from a U.S. soldier.**

By 2nd Lt. Andrew Exum

Fort Lewis fell prey to a British "invasion" this summer as cadets from the United Kingdom made the trip to ROTC Advanced Camp to train with their American counterparts.

More than 30 UKOTC cadets have integrated into 8th and 9th Regiments to participate in the remainder of their training, including Squad and Platoon STX.

Cadet James Egan from Drexel University in Philadelphia says the British cadets have been a welcome addition to his platoon.

"It's nice to hear the differences - how we operate versus how they operate."

And the British cadets seem to be enjoying themselves.

"I've been very impressed by the motivation and the high morale," says Ben Coxon, a UKOTC cadet from Brunel University in West London. "What [the American cadets] are doing now and the whole command process they go through has been very similar."

Coxon adds that he likes the blue card/yellow card evaluation process that the American cadets complete as part of their learning process.

"I like the analysis - the cards that they do. We don't go into as much detail."

And Mark Sims, a cadet from King's College at the University of London, says the American cadets have been quite accommodating.

"They're a lot more helpful," he says. "Everyone's willing to help anyone here."

There are a few aspects of the U.S. Army that the British cadets could do without. "I can't get used to these dog tags," said Sims.

But there's one thing the UKOTC cadets would certainly like to take back home with them.

"The food here," says Coxon, "is excellent."

Sims agrees. "The food is wicked—I can't wait for lunch!"





# Rigauds make ROTC a family affair

Story and photos by 2nd Lt. Greg Darling

Family life in the military often presents endless challenges and frequent hardships for many. Few Advanced Camp cadets can attest to this better than Ronald and Monica Rigaud. The married couple are not only in the same ROTC program and Advanced Camp together, but have also been together during a large part of both their Army careers.

Ronald began his career in the reserves as a behavioral science specialist in February 1992. He later transferred to active duty, becoming an air traffic controller.

Monica Crandall entered service in September 1993, working as a mechanic for a time, followed by supply work, finally specializing in finance in the Texas Army National Guard.

The two met in an air traffic control unit at Fort Hood, Texas in March 1994. Because of the ever-present maintenance of vehicles in their unit, they found themselves together in the motor pool on a regular basis. "We got to working on vehicles a lot together," Ronald remarked, "and [we] just started talking and figured out we had a lot of interests and similar backgrounds."

The relationship progressed smoothly and the couple married on July 11, 1995.

As they expected, duty separations were frequent and the Rigauds often found themselves apart for many months, especially on duty in Korea. "We counted up the days," said Monica, "and Ron was gone seven months out of the whole year when we were there." Also, while at Fort Bragg, N.C., Ronald was sent to numerous armor training schools and Pathfinder school. They did, however go through Airborne school together in Sept. 1996. Their year as MS-III cadets was the first opportunity



**Monica Rigaud took top honors as with the highest 11th Regiment female APFT score at 321 points.**

to spend an extended period training together. Both cadets began the ROTC program at Methodist College in Fayetteville, N.C., in the 1999 fall semester. Each of them already had nearly three years of education completed before entering college full time.

When asked who's idea it was to begin the Green-to-Gold program, Monica said, "Well, I had thought about it before I got out of the 82nd [Airborne]. But at the time we weren't financially ready to commit to something like that." After completing her enlistment, Monica left the military while Ronald continued his service. "About a year before [our decision] Ron made E-6," said Monica, "and we both had the goal of finishing our degrees. We looked into it, checked it out, saved up a lot of money and went for it."

Ronald added, "I guess I give my credit to my last company commander. He really pushed me a lot and said it was something I should do. Every opportunity he had, he would say, 'You should do this Sgt. Rigaud, you should really do this.' So I sat down and talked with my wife and we decided it was the right thing to do."

Both had some insightful thoughts about the

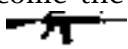


**Ronald and Monica Rigaud have made the Army their family business.**

ROTC program. "I had a tough time starting out," said Ronald. "You know, you take the stripes off and you go from being a leader to nothing all of a sudden. But it was a learning process. I learned a few things about myself and I drove on." Monica added, "ROTC is very different than active duty. But it's a training environment where we're always learning."

They spent their fifth anniversary at the romantic and relaxing Advanced Camp branch orientation, this year. "Nice way to celebrate our anniversary," they joked. Ronald said he would like to branch aviation and Monica prefers finance.

Both are performing exceptionally at 2000 ROTC Advanced Camp. Monica achieved the highest female Army physical fitness test score for 11th Regiment, attaining a 321. And, at the time of this writing, the two were still in the running for RECONDO badges.

Their motivation and perseverance in the face of obstacles has been a shining example to their counterparts. The careers of the Rigauds show the promise of a bright future as they work to become the professional officers of tomorrow. 



**Cadet Andrew Shields**

## Sibling cadets double up for camp

Story and photos by 2nd Lt. Erica Iverson

**Cadet Phillip Shields**



Twin brothers Peter and Andrew Kim from Maple Glen, Penn. are just one set of siblings attending Advanced Camp 2000 in 4th and 10th Regiment, respectively.

After 21 years together, the fraternal brothers had never spent more than a weekend apart, yet the biggest trial for them was not only to pass and excel at camp, but to endure the longest separation ever set before them.

Peter and Andrew have shared their entire life's journey, from school years, to both being recruited by the West Point tennis team and finally, to attending the University of Pennsylvania, receiving ROTC scholarships.

Competition is never an issue between the two. "It is more of a joint competition to the point where we complement each other, for we are as close to being a perfect match as any two people could be," said Andrew.

Peter agreed. "I'm more worried about his reaction for how I do, than how I do for myself. We are very supportive and defensive of each other; being Korean, we are very tight knit, so familial ties are stronger than anything."

Identical twins, Andrew and Phillip Shields



**Twin brother Cadets Peter and Andrew Kim from Maple Glen, Penn. are both at 2000 Advanced Camp.**

have a similar situation. Both are 11th Regiment cadets. The two have also shared a journey, both attending ROTC Basic Camp together while serving in the same National Guard unit. They are also private pilots, chemistry majors at Wofford College, and both wish to branch Aviation.

The cadets agree that there is a spirit of competition between them in ROTC. "We push each other, and because we're so close and have so many similarities," Phillip remarked, "it is motivating and I can't let him beat me." It seems to work out well though

because each one's strength is the other's weakness, so that fact alone helps to push them even further.

Siblings Tracy and Bill Wilson, from 3rd and 4th Regiments, originally came from two different ROTC programs. Tracy, a nursing student at Creighton University, was thrilled when Bill switched to the Army from the Air Force ROTC program at Georgia Tech. He was an end of camp commissionee on July 18.

The two have been able to share what has been taught them, using their experiences to help each other. Bill even flew to Nebraska, last year, to attend a late third-year FTX with Tracy's class to help further prepare him for camp.

Bill said, "It was cool to run into her. One time our platoons were waiting in line, and she was platoon sergeant so I got to sit back and watch her in action without her knowing I was there. I want her to do well, but I don't mind doing better, as the older brother."

It has been said the Army is one big family, but in some cases more than others. "Brothers in arms" is a coined term that hits closer to home for some cadets. 